CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A computer program product for backtracing network performance, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable code thereon, including program code comprising:

     instructions for causing a processor to perform as a web monitor, said web monitor capturing a source address of a packet received from a network, said web monitor performing a network backtrace on said source address; and

     instructions for causing a processor to perform as a client, said client collecting and processing data resulting from said network backtrace, said client presenting results of said processing.

2.   The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions for causing a processor to access a database, said database storing data captured by said web monitor

3.   The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions for causing said client to perform a reporting function.

4.   The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions for causing said client to perform an administrative function.

5.   The computer program product of claim 1 wherein said backtrace extends to a system selected from the group consisting of an end-user machine, a firewall and a router.

1 6.   The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions
2 for causing a processor to capture a plurality of packets, for identifying SYN
3 packets within said plurality of packets, for extracting source addresses from said
4 SYN packets, and for extracting destination addresses from said SYN packets.

1 7.   The computer program product of claim 6 further comprising instructions
2 for causing said monitor to trace the network routes back to said captured source
3 address.

1 8.   The computer program product of claim 6 further comprising instructions
2 for causing said monitor to observe the performance of the network on the path
3 from said source address to said client.

1 9.   The computer program product of claim 1 further comprising instructions
2 for causing said product for backtracing network performance to include a
3 plurality of intervals.

1 10.   The computer program product of claim 9 wherein one of said intervals
2 comprises a write interval.

1 11.   The computer program product of claim 9 wherein one of said intervals
2 comprises a trace interval.

1 12.   The computer program product of claim 9 wherein one of said intervals
2 comprises a prune interval.

1   13.   The computer program product of claim 10 wherein when a user address

2   is new within a write interval said user address is processed as a new user address,

3   and when a user address has already occurred within a write interval a user

4   request counter is incremented.

1   14.   The computer program product of claim 10 wherein each new address

2   within a write interval is time-stamped.

1   15.   The computer program product of claim 11 wherein the first time a

2   particular address is captured within a trace interval a traceroute operation is run

3   on said address.

1   16.   A method of backtracing network performance comprising the steps of:

2   capturing a source address of a packet received from a network;

3   performing a network backtrace on said source address;

4   collecting and processing data resulting from said network backtrace; and

5   presenting results of said collecting and processing.

1   17.   The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of accessing a

2   database, said database storing data captured by said backtrace.

1   18.   The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of performing a

2   reporting function.

1   19.   The method of claim 16 further comprising performing an administrative

2   function.

1   20.   The method of claim 16 wherein said backtrace extends to a system

2   selected from the group consisting of an end-user machine, a firewall and a router.

1   21.   The method of claim 16 further comprising the steps of:

2   capturing a plurality of packets;

3   identifying SYN packets within said plurality of packets;

4   extracting source addresses from said SYN packets; and

5   extracting destination addresses from said SYN packets.

1   22.   The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of tracing the network

2   routes back to said captured source address.

1   23.   The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of observing the

2   performance of the network on the path from said source address to said client.

1   24.   The method of claim 16 wherein when a user address is new within a write

2   interval said user address is processed as a new user address, and when a user

3   address has already occurred within a write interval a user request counter is

4   incremented.

1   25.   The method of claim 10 wherein each new address within a write interval

2   is time-stamped.

1   26.   The method of claim 16 wherein the first time a particular address is

2   captured within a trace interval a traceroute operation is run on said address.